[71] Introduction

121 It was not without a special reason that the Santa Cruz Col-
127 lection of the Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum was chosen for the first number of Ethnologica. While it is one of the high points of Professor Wilhelm Joest's collections, which form the basic stock of our museum, at the same time it is a legacy from him, since he built it up shortly before his death and it was on Santa Cruz itself that the seeds of death were implanted in him. It is therefore a duty of respect to erect a monument to him by means of a worthy
127 publication of this collection. A small number of objects, with other parts of the bequest, went to the Berlin Museum für Völkerkunde, where they were given the same consideration as the collection of Professor G. Thilenius there, which is noteworthy for its precise designations. I am very much indebted to Professor von Luschan for permission to use these collections, as well as for photographs of the most important objects. Joest's valuable notes from his journal have already been worked up by Baessler
[113] in his Neuen Südsee-Bildern [New Sketches of the South Sea], but unfortunately not in their entirety and in a free and not always accurate version, so that the story form in which he gives the account and which gives the impression that Joest's manuscript was shortened but otherwise reproduced verbatim is misleading. It was therefore necessary to use the manuscript of the journal alongside Baessler's text. The original photographs of natives, huts, boats, etc. come from the magnificent photographic collection of Mr. Küppers-Loosen; to him, also, I extend my sincere thanks for his permission to use the collection and to reproduce it.
127 In this way, Joest's collections and notes form the nucleus,
121 around which are grouped the few other Santa Cruz objects in our museum and the literature available to me, for a probably quite complete picture of the particular culture in the present
121 state of our knowledge. It was self-evident, however, that merely a description of the culture was not enough, that the material presented would have to demonstrate justification for its existence; hence the descriptive part is followed by a culture-historical part,

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the vignettes accompanying this and the insignificant section, "Iles Santa Cruz," probably refer to objects of the New Hebrides but by no means to such of the Santa Cruz group); J. Jennings, "Notes on the Exhibition of an Ethnographical Collection from Santa Cruz etc.," JAI, XXVIII (1898), pp. 164f; W.C. O'Ferrall, Santa Cruz and the Reef Islands (The Melanesian Mission, Westminster, S.W.), and Fl. Coombe, Islands of Enchantment, London, 1911 (Nitendi, pp. 169-194, Reef or Swallow Islands, pp. 195-213, Vanikoro, p. 170; leans heavily on O'Ferrall, not on the work cited here, but on personal accounts and older mission reports); F. Speiser, Südsee, Urwald, Kannibalen /The South Seas, Virgin Forest, Cannibals/, Leipzig, 1913 (Nitendi, pp. 289-303). The pertinent passages in these publications have been referred to, as a rule, only where the material is new as compared to Graebner's work. I was unable to obtain the mission periodical used by Coombe, The Southern Cross Log. For photographs or drawings I am indebted to the heads of the ethnological museums in Budapest, Dresden, Leipzig, and Vienna. The organization of the new material went hand in hand with a re-examination of the old; what proved to be inaccurate in Graebner's study has been corrected. Foy.]

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114 I concluded a two-year study trip to the New Hebrides in 1911-12 with a visit to the Santa Cruz Islands. I spent six weeks at Graciosa Bay in Nitendi and lived there as the guest